

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## PHIL 305: Modern Philosophy: 17th Century

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Study of Western philosophy in the 17th century, focusing on the metaphysical and epistemological writings of Descartes and Locke.

Prerequisites: Students should have taken at least two courses in philosophy or obtain consent of instructor. Prerequisites: or consent of instructor.

### B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/27/2007 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Historical development of Western philosophy in the 17th century.
2. In translation, the philosophical writings of Descartes, focusing on metaphysics and epistemology.
3. The philosophical writings of Locke, focusing on metaphysics and epistemology.
4. The philosophical ideas of one or more additional Western philosophers of the 16th and 17th centuries as selected by the instructor.

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Explain central ideas and themes that characterize Western metaphysics in the 17th century.
2. Explain central ideas and themes that characterize Western epistemology in the 17th century.
3. Compare and contrast the metaphysical and epistemological positions of Descartes and Locke.
4. Critically evaluate the metaphysical and epistemological position of Descartes.
5. Critically evaluate the metaphysical and epistemological position of Locke.
6. Explain the historical development of Western philosophy in the 17th century.

### E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

### F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

### G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted